

Testimony Before Montana Legislature Long Range Planning Joint Committee

Mark A. Sherouse, Executive Director
Montana Committee for the Humanities
February 13, 2007

Mr. Chairman, members of the Committee, for the record, my name is Mark A. Sherouse. I am Executive Director of the Montana Committee for the Humanities, a statewide nonprofit organization with offices in Missoula. I am testifying on behalf of grant #1228, requesting funding for a special project grant to support the Montana Committee for the Humanities' *Speakers Bureau*. [Materials distributed: MCH pamphlet, 2006-2008 *Speakers Bureau* catalog, MCH bookmark, list of *Speakers Bureau* communities served].

The members of the Montana Committee for the Humanities and I are grateful to have the opportunity to request state support for our *Speakers Bureau*. The Legislature has chosen to fund the *Speakers Bureau* in seven previous sessions, and we are hopeful that you and your colleagues also will appreciate the benefits of this program and give it your support. We are grateful also to the Cultural and Aesthetics Projects Advisory Committee for the strong recommendation our proposal received.

The Montana Committee for the Humanities is Montana's independent nonprofit affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities, an independent federal agency. The Committee itself consists of nineteen Montana citizens, broadly representative of the state's civic, academic, geographical, and other diversities; four are appointed by the Governor. The Committee was founded by thirteen Montana citizens in 1972, in response to Congress' National Arts and Humanities Act of 1965. Every state has a humanities council similar to ours. The Committee meets quarterly to make policy and to review proposals from the public for the grants it provides. It is served by a small staff with offices in Missoula.

The humanities include such disciplines as history, philosophy, literature, languages, religious studies, jurisprudence, and a variety of other fields. The original and still basic purpose of state humanities councils such as MCH is to distribute grant funds from the National Endowment for the Humanities in support of public programs in the humanities, to nonprofit organizations throughout the state. Over the past thirty years, MCH has awarded grants to hundreds of Montana organizations: museums, libraries, churches, schools, colleges and universities, governmental entities, civic, service, and professional groups. MCH-funded conferences, workshops, exhibitions, publications, television and radio programs, films, videos and other media, have reached thousands of Montanans. We are also the Montana Center for the Book, affiliated with the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress, and sponsor the statewide Montana Festival of the Book, *Letters About Literature*, a national reading and writing contest for junior and senior high school students, as well as the One Book Montana statewide reading and discussion program. And, we currently are sponsoring the Smithsonian Institution's *Key Ingredients: America by Food*—a traveling exhibit and celebration of America's agricultural and culinary heritage that has toured among six of Montana's rural museums in 2006-2007.

Not every community nor organization has the resources to develop a major proposal or event, and, in recognition of this, some twenty-four years ago, MCH developed its so-called "packaged programs," including the *Speakers Bureau*. The *Speakers Bureau* program has thrived since then, meeting ever-increasing demand, and is easily the Committee's most popular and effective vehicle for bringing the humanities to *all* of Montana.

The workings of the *Speakers Bureau* are simple and straightforward. An organization—a library, museum, school, or other nonprofit group—chooses a speaker and topic from our *Speakers Bureau* catalog and books the speaker directly for the appointed date. The organization sends an application to MCH, and, assuming that very minimal conditions are met, *and that funds are available*, it is approved.

With NEH and Cultural Trust funds, MCH then pays the speaker's *honorarium* and travel expenses. The local sponsoring organization's contribution—mostly in-kind or volunteer—consists in planning and coordinating the event, providing space, advertising, and an audience. The *Speakers Bureau* thus combines the community's private resources *and* public funds, both state and federal, in bringing the reflection, discussion, and insights of the humanities to the communities it serves.

As you can see from the current *Speakers Bureau* catalog, our programs emphasize Montana and western history, Montana literature, Native American affairs, Lewis and Clark, and many other topics of interest to our citizens. Late in 2001, we developed a special 9-11 edition of the *Speakers Bureau*. This special edition brought together poets and professors, historians, former State Department officials, and many others of widely divergent views, to help Montana citizens and community groups work their ways through the many issues raised by the tragic events of that date and their aftermath.

Demand for MCH's *Speakers Bureau* continues to exceed MCH's capacity to fund these popular programs. For the period 2000-2006 the Committee has funded more than 1,200 *Speakers Bureau* programs across Montana, reaching nearly 100 communities each year, most with populations under 2,500. Average attendance is 90 persons per program. The programs are well-distributed throughout the state, historically, with eastern Montana receiving 19%, south central Montana 30%, north central 23%, and western Montana 28%.

Montanans are an engaged and reflective people, and, as demand for *Speakers Bureau* programs shows, their appetite for humanities and cultural enrichment is strong. The *Speakers Bureau* is one of MCH's most popular programs—responding to a genuine need among the state's people—and is certainly its most effective means of providing cultural programs for *all* of Montana.

Yet, in every year, with demand far exceeding available funds, the Committee has been forced to close the application period barely midway through the grant year. Several years ago, facing increasing demand and diminishing support, the Committee limited the number of programs an organization could sponsor to three per year; and it also implemented a \$50 "co-pay" to help extend the program. In the coming biennium, MCH will no longer be able to buttress its *Speakers Bureau* funding with Lewis and Clark Bicentennial grants (five of which MCH was awarded over the past several years). MCH's request to the Montana Cultural Trust for \$75,000 for the 2008-2009 *biennium* reflects these realities of demand, and need for additional funding, for the *Speakers Bureau*.

While we bear *all* the costs of administering and marketing the *Speakers Bureau*—more than \$30,000 per year—MCH asks that the state *share* in meeting the costs of individual programs. MCH itself supports these programs with an additional \$30,000 or more per year. Additional support from the state will enable the Committee to maintain the present *Speakers Bureau* level of service across Montana. We are already very nearly half way through our budgeted federal funds for 2007, and, unless relief is in sight, we will have to contemplate a reduction in programs offered in the remainder of this year.

For much of its existence, the *Speakers Bureau* has benefited greatly from the funding of Montana's Cultural Trust. With Cultural Trust funds, we have extended the *Speakers Bureau* far more widely than might otherwise have been the case and helped ever more Montanans to help themselves to its benefits. We hope you are proud to have been a part of this program over the years and ask that you help us to extend its benefits even more widely among our citizens.

I appreciate your interest and will be pleased to respond to your questions. Thank you

Montana Committee for the Humanities

SPEAKERS BUREAU

2006-2008

Nation and World

KEY INGREDIENTS

America by Food

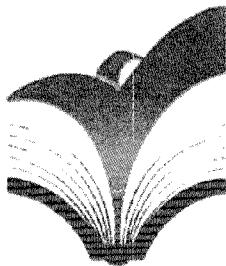
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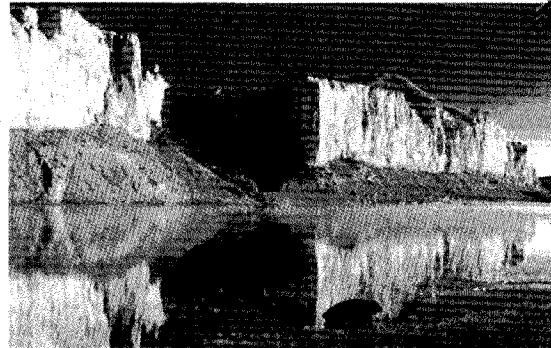
Montana &
Western History



Native
Peoples'
Histories
and
Cultures



CHAUTAUQUA



Environment

CIVIC
CULTURE

Montana Committee For The Humanities

SPEAKERS BUREAU

This information also available on MCH's website www.humanities-mt.org

The Montana Committee for the Humanities' *Speakers Bureau* offers communities and non-profit organizations the opportunity to explore ideas and issues through a rich variety of programs. Our roster consists of 118 humanities-focused public programs your organization can choose from to host in your community. The speakers and programs have been selected through a statewide call for proposals, and the Committee's careful review process, in order to assure the highest quality.

You may book a program in one of two ways.

1. Engage a Speaker directly, without requesting an MCH *Speakers Bureau* grant award. You arrange amounts and payments directly with the speaker. The MCH staff will send you press release materials upon request.
2. Apply for a program through an MCH *Speakers Bureau* award. You contribute \$50 at the time of your application, provide the planning, coordination, advertising, meeting room, and an audience. If accepted, MCH will pay the speaker's *honorarium*, travel, lodging, and meals. You also have the option of providing meals or lodging. These programs must be presented free of charge to the public. If your application is not accepted, your check will be returned. You may sponsor up to three MCH-funded programs in a calendar year. Please turn to the back of this catalog for instructions and follow the steps to complete the application.

Funding for the *Speakers Bureau* is provided by:



Montana Committee for the Humanities



NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES

MONTANA
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the People



MONTANA
Department of
AGRICULTURE

Montana Committee for the Humanities is Montana's independent non-profit state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. Founded in 1972, MCH provides services and grants in support of public programs in history, literature, philosophy, and other humanities disciplines. The educational and cultural programs sponsored by the Committee encourage Montanans to reflect on humanity's creative and intellectual achievements, celebrate cultural diversity, probe the meaning of human values, and foster a deeper appreciation of ourselves, our cultures, and our world.

Montana Committee for the Humanities

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Native American Histories and Cultures
Montana and Western History
Nation and World
Key Ingredients: America by Food
Literature
Environment
Media and the Arts
Communication, Culture, and Public Policy
Museum Resources and Historic Preservation
Chautauqua

Native Peoples' Histories and Cultures

Dog Days to Horse Culture

Karyn Follis Cheatham, author and historian, Helena

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Indian people of the Northern Plains are most often considered part of the American Indian Horse Culture, yet their history long precedes the modern horse. In storyteller fashion, Cheatham presents this history with maps, photos and models (complete with replica equipment) to help audiences of all ages visualize Northern Plains lifestyle before and after the horse.

Indian Customs

Louise Ogemahgeshig Fischer, Annishinaabe artist and cultural consultant, Helena

475-3259

Fischer, through recounted facts and stories, reveals in detail, a rich array of Native American history, traditions, art, music, economy and leisure activities. This overview of American Indian customs links present day practices to the traditions of the past.

Living With the Land

Louise Ogemahgeshig Fischer, Annishinaabe artist and cultural consultant, Helena

475-3259

Using stories and facts, Fischer recounts the American Indian struggle for survival in often harsh conditions, triumph over hardships, and spiritual and creative achievements. This inspiring talk enhances understanding of how the Indian peoples lived, and can be tailored to focus particularly on food, clothing, or medicine, as requested.

A Meeting By The River: The First Crow Agency, 1869-1875

Kevin Kooistra-Manning, community historian, Western Heritage Center, Billings

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The story of the first Crow Agency, located east of present-day Livingston, conveys the dynamic relationship between the Absarokee or Crow Indians, Crows' allies and enemies, fur trappers, fledgling entrepreneurs, and the United States Government. In particular, the record of the 1873 Judith Basin treaty negotiations shed light on these interactions. Speeches of the Crow leaders include observations on Crow relationships with other tribes and the differences of lifestyle between the Crow and outsiders. Descriptions of the Indian agents of the Crow Reservation from 1869-1875 demonstrate a rich cross-section of Federal leadership styles and cultural concerns. Kooistra-Manning illustrates the presentation using a power point slide show.

Old Medicine Singers and Dancers: The Power of the Drum

Joseph Anderson/Old Medicine Singers and Dancers, teacher of Native American literature, Helena High School, Helena

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The Old Medicine Singers and Dancers are a Native American drum and dance group who share songs and dances extolling traditional tribal cultures and histories, including three presentations reflecting

the Native American perspective on the Lewis and Clark Expedition. With accompanying narration on its history, each song and dance combines storytelling and musical celebration.

Clothing as Art: A Crow Tradition

Mardell Plainfeather, retired national park ranger in interpretation, Billings
855-4985

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Mardell Plainfeather demonstrates five different styles of Crow women's clothing, using items which she created herself beginning at age fifteen. She shares some history of the different styles, how they evolved through time, and how and why they were made. Audience will also see accessories such as moccasins, leggings, jewelry and some children's clothing which Plainfeather made for her children. Learn how these traditional garments are made, what materials are needed, and how beadwork is applied.

Native Wisdom in the Stories of Plenty-coups and Pretty-shield

Celeste River, writer/photographer, Missoula

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The books *Plenty-coups* and *Pretty-shield*, written by one of Montana's first literary figures, Frank Bird Linderman, were first published as *American* in 1930 and *Red Mother* in 1932, respectively. They are stories of Crow familial life in the mid- to late-1800s, of healings and medicine or spiritual powers, of the devastations and heroics of war, and of the people's relationships with the land and nature around them. River's reflections on these stories are interwoven with photographs and archival images from over twenty years of research. The wisdom found in the collective memories shared by these tribal elders from the past teach inter-cultural appreciation and augment the state's constitutional mandate to provide quality *Indian Education for All*.

The Founding of Rocky Boy's Indian Reservation in the Bear Paw Mountains, 1916

Celeste River, writer/photographer, Missoula

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This narrative with visuals is an enduring story of the inter-cultural respect and cooperation between Rocky Boy's Chippewa and Little Bear's Cree bands of Indians, with help from Montana author Frank Bird Linderman and his contemporaries (including Charles M. Russell, Paris Gibson, and William Bole, editor of the Great Falls Tribune) required to gain land, a home for their ceremonies, a place to plant their center pole. One of River's *Spirit of the Land in the Big Sky* series, it is a story that illuminates the Rocky Boy's Tribal History Project at Stone Child College and augments the state's constitutional mandate to provide quality *Indian Education for All*.

The Traditional Tribal Ways of Medicine

Lloyd Top Sky, Chippewa-Cree cultural interpreter, Rocky Boy

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Cree and Ojibwa oral tradition teaches that herbal, spiritual, and holistic approaches to Indian medicine derived from Mother Earth's natural components, a gift from the Creator to the two tribes. The Cree word *I-n T o mah-s-ke-ke*, Indian medicine, relates to the sacred, the soul, the spirit, but does not exclude science in modern Indian thought. In times of war, illness, relationship problems, and other bad circumstances, Indian medicine played a role in curing and resolving the situations for many tribes. Top Sky brings to this power-point lecture handouts of medicinal elements, visuals of herbs and objects used in healing, and encourages discussion.

Blackfeet History and Stories

Curly Bear Wagner, Blackfeet historian, Browning

338-2058

From an independent, stone-age people, the Blackfeet became the dominant warring power on the early Northwestern Plains. Feared by neighboring tribes and white trappers, this bold, proud people were reduced by the extermination of the buffalo to a people in dire poverty, dependent upon the U.S. government for basic sustenance. Wagner shares the written and oral histories depicting the conflict, comedy, and tragedy known by this nation of people.

Two Worlds at Two Medicine

Curly Bear Wagner, Blackfeet historian, Browning

338-2058 460-0786 cell

The only deadly encounter recorded in the journals of the Lewis and Clark expedition happened along the Two Medicine River in Blackfeet Country. Curly Bear Wagner presents a locally produced 35-minute DVD entitled "Two Worlds at Two Medicine" that traces the history of the Blackfeet, their relations with other tribes, and their practice of trading with Europeans prior to the coming of Lewis and Clark. The film reenacts the encounter between Meriwether Lewis and eight Blackfeet warriors, explains where the captain's "peaceful" message went wrong, and shows the area and fight site. Wagner also recounts the aftermath of Lewis and Clark's expedition, the unfortunate battles and bloodshed, as well as the era of McKenzie, who took over Ft. Union and made peace with the Blackfeet.

Montana and Western History

Spirit Tailings and Story Tellings

Ellen Baumler, research historian and writer, Montana Historical Society, Helena

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Things that go bump in the Big Sky night provide the framework for this program of well-researched ghost stories and unsolved mysteries. Eerie experiences involving heritage places and historical events are an integral part of our cultural fabric and, when grounded in fact, substantiate the notion that the past sometimes "haunts" the present. Ellen Baumler includes mysterious stories and tales from across the state, part of Montana's unique historical legacy.

Daughters of the Sweetgrass Hills: History and Culture of the Sweetgrass Hills of Montana*

Ruth Burleigh, poet, storyteller, and writer, Chinook

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rburl@mtintouch.net

Penny Velk, singer, songwriter, music instructor, Havre

265-5288

mtpenv@hotmail.com

Visit this cherished northern Montana landmark whose history stretches from sacred buffalo hunting grounds to profane exploitation of wells of "black gold." Born and raised in the Sweetgrass Hills, Dolezal sisters Ruth Burleigh and Penny Velk present family stories, songs, and poems that reflect the rich history and spirit of all Montanans through the story of one of the last best places in transition.

Montana, East of the Mountains

Rick and Susie Graetz, writers, publishers, photographers, Rick-Adjunct Professor of Geography, The University of Montana-Missoula, Big Sky/Missoula/Helena

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The landscape on the sunrise side of the Rocky Mountain Front and the Beartooth Mountains is a mix of pervasive space, and simple grandeur, populated by hardy folks whose love of the land is undaunted. Through their photographs, which document the undeniable beauty of the land, and their lecture on the region's wild, and fast paced history, the Graetzes answer the question "Why would anyone want to live there?"

Travelers' Rest National Historic Landmark: Validation and Verification of a Lewis & Clark Campsite

Daniel Hall, historical archeologist, Western Cultural, Inc., Missoula

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Travelers' Rest was pivotal in the transcontinental exploration of the Corps of Discovery, as the site of their encampment in September 1805 to prepare for crossing the Bitterroot Mountains, as the point of separation on return in June 1806, and as a focal point of western geography as understood by Lewis and Clark and Native Americans before them. Investigations to verify the site's location included ethnographic and historical research, archaeological excavations, remote sensing techniques, and laboratory analysis. Evidence includes the von Steuben military encampment protocol, the location of fire hearths and latrine, a tombac button, a trade bead, melted lead, and journals of Expedition members. Hall, in fascinating detail, shares his eight years of discovery.

Nuclear Montana: A History of Montana's Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles

Molly Holz, Director of Publication, Montana Historical Society, editor of *Montana The Magazine of Western History*, Helena

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In all, two hundred Minuteman missiles dot Montana's landscape. From Shelby in the north to Augusta in the west, from Harlowton to the south and Ryegate in the east, and back north to Roy, the Minuteman missile field is a rough oval covering central Montana. Although the missiles have been upgraded to the current Minuteman IIIs, the basic launch structure—the two hundred silos that house them; the twenty launch control facilities; and the cabling system connecting these with Malmstrom Air Force Base—has remained essentially the same since 1962, when the first flights were declared operational. Learn the history of Minuteman missiles in Montana and how the missiles thrust a remote rural state into the center of international affairs.

Life by Comparison: The Stories of Frederick and Parmly Billings

Kevin Kooistra-Manning, community historian, Western Heritage Center, Billings

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Frederick Billings, President of the Northern Pacific Railway, invested heavily in the nascent city named for him, and, after retiring to his family estate in Woodstock, Vermont, sent his son, Parmly, to oversee his business interests in Montana. Parmly's letters offer a revealing, and often hilarious, study of life in Billings and the Yellowstone Valley in the 1880s. These letters give a glimpse into his daily life in the West and the complex relationship that existed between him and his father. Essentially sent to Billings to prove himself, Parmly's untimely death came as a mortal blow to his father. Letters, diaries, music of the times, and photographs from the Billings Family Archives of Vermont bring the Billings' family story to life.

Living History with Joseph Whitehouse—Enlisted Member of the Corps of Discovery

Thomas Lukomski, retired teacher, Missoula Public Schools, Missoula

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Just how difficult was the trip? Pvt. Joseph Whitehouse, the only private to keep and have published a journal of the work of the Corps of Discovery, details his trials and labors with the Corps. Private Whitehouse recalls what was most important to the enlisted men and identifies his best and worst experiences as a member of the Expedition. He enlivens this program with an array of period objects.

Legislative Lunacy—A "Jerks in Montana History" Program

Lyndel Meikle, writer, historian and interpreter for National Park Service, Grant-Kohrs Ranch, Deer Lodge

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The year was 1890, and the new state of Montana launched a legislative session of such chaos, acrimony, and pigheadedness that it would have been one for the records, if there were any records. There aren't. Historical sleuth Meikle pieces together the story of Montana's missing session and its missing legislators.

Sincerely, Warden Conley

Lyndel Meikle, writer, historian and interpreter for National Park Service, Grant-Kohrs Ranch, Deer Lodge

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It's not unusual for a person to seem good and actually do ill, but what makes a man seem bad and actually do good? Frank Conley was warden of the Montana State Penitentiary for three decades. During that time he initiated reforms which would be considered enlightened by today's standards, but in 1921, Governor Dixon fired him for a variety of crimes. Was he guilty? Was he framed? Who was the warden?

Experiencing Yellowstone Park in the Era of Horses

M. Mark Miller, independent scholar, Bozeman

994-9326

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How many people remember when touring Yellowstone Park by horse at six miles an hour was considered a torrid pace? Fortunately, dozens of early travelers left diaries and reminiscences describing their trips. Mark Miller uses these sources to describe the Yellowstone experience from the time the first tourists rode horses in roadless wilderness, through the era of self-guided tours in surreys and covered wagons, to when comfortable coaches with four- and six-horse teams sped travelers between luxury hotels. The presentation recreates the early Yellowstone experience with historic photographs and early travelers' own words.

When Jeannette Said No: Montana and World War I

Mary Murphy, Michael P. Malone Professor of History, Montana State University, Bozeman

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When Montana's Jeannette Rankin, the first woman in the U.S. House of Representatives voted against U.S. entry into World War I, Montanans responded loudly. Many of the state's newspapers condemned her, but in private letters, hundreds of Montanans supported her. Mary Murphy explores the many sides of this issue and the way in which Rankin's position as first female in Congress prompted people on both sides to examine the issues of war through the lens of gender.

Wonderland Revisited: A Century of Photographs Along the Lewis and Clark Trail*

Joseph Mussulman, retired Professor of Music, The University of Montana, Missoula

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The first comprehensive pictorial guide to the Lewis and Clark trail appeared exactly one hundred years ago. Since then, the eye of the camera has been directed toward virtually every photogenic corner of the expedition's route. In "Wonderland Revisited," Joseph Mussulman draws upon the work of nine different photographers, including several from Montana, to show some of the ways the camera has added new dimensions to the Expedition's story, and given readers new views of "the face of the country."

The Mapmaker's Eye: Tracking David Thompson across the Rocky Mountains*

Jack Nisbet, teacher, naturalist, writer, Spokane

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Prior to Lewis and Clark, Canadian fur trader and surveyor David Thompson made the first accurate map of the Mandan villages in 1798, sent voyageurs across the Rocky Mountains into the upper Columbia River in 1800, and between 1807 and 1812 established a network of trading posts that included Saleesh House in western Montana. His five remarkable large maps based on these explorations presented the first clear picture of the greater northwest. Thompson's broad range of interests provides us a window into both the native landscape and the great social upheavals created by the period of contact in our region.

Alder Gulch: A Montana Treasure

Bill Peterson, curator of interpretation, Montana Heritage Commission, Virginia City

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Since 1997, the Montana Heritage Commission has operated one of the nation's most ambitious preservation projects. The buildings and object collections in Virginia and Nevada Cities are a rare and unique gift given to all Americans, which are held in the public trust by the people of Montana. Explore the treasures of Alder Gulch, which represent not only Montana's rich cultural heritage but also that of the whole country.

Fire and Brimstone: The North Butte Mining Disaster of 1917*

Michael Punke, Writer and Adjunct Professor at the University of Montana, Missoula

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The worst hard-rock mining disaster in US history took place in 1917 after a Butte miner's lantern sparked an inferno more than 2,000 feet below ground. The horrific story of the men who lived and died

that day is compelling in its own right, but equally important is the surprising historical context of Montana in the World War I era. Punke, a former aid at the White House National Security Council and author of the book *Fire and Brimstone: The North Butte Mining Disaster of 1917*, uses a slide presentation to explore Montana as a powder keg of antiwar protest, an abusive corporate master, seething labor unrest, divisive ethnic tension, and radicalism both left and right.

Geology and the Lewis and Clark Expedition in Montana*

Sheila Roberts, professor of geology, University of Montana Western, Dillon

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Robert C. Thomas, professor of geology, University of Montana Western, Dillon

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r_thomas@umwestern.edu

The Lewis and Clark Expedition journals describe many places where the explorers were awed, troubled, intrigued, assisted by, or otherwise directly interacting with the landscape. Roberts and Thomas provide the geological background information for understanding that interaction they wrote about. For example, on the Missouri River below the Great Falls, the high salt content of the river water plagued the Expedition. Those were salts dissolving out of rocks deposited 70 million years ago, when an ancient sea covered Montana! The program includes an illustrated talk, rock samples, as well as a display of geological interpretive road signs the speakers created for the Lewis and Clark Trail in Montana (see http://www.umwestern.edu/shares/lcgeosigns_share/).

Home, Home on the Ranch*

Bill Rossiter, retired instructor of literature and folklore and chair of the Humanities Division, Flathead Valley Community College, Kalispell.

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bill_rossiter@centurytel.net

This musical presentation details the values and experiences, the humor and tragedies unique to building a life in the rural West. Carving a home out of the high plains wilderness was tough enough, but these songs and stories—some serious, some funny, some seriously funny—show that staying for the long haul added flint to the soul. Rossiter accompanies the songs with guitar, banjo, Autoharp and harmonica, and he encourages audience members to share personal or family stories about life on the range.

Liberty, Freedom, Democracy, and the American Indians*

John Snider, Professor of English Montana State University-Northern, Havre

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From the Boston Tea Party and the Iroquois League to the Tammany Societies and the modern environmental movement, American Indian cultures have greatly influenced our American ideas of democracy. The natural rights celebrated by the Founding Fathers, the Boy Scout movement, and countless popular films have been inspired by American Indian ideals of liberty and self-reliance. Snider explains how American Indian societies have shaped American notions of freedom.

The Story of the Bitterroot*

Steve Slocomb, filmmaker, Hamilton

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Nine years in the making, this beautiful 68-minute video looks at the relationship of the bitterroot plant to the Salish Indian tribe, how Meriwether Lewis was introduced to it, how it came to be Montana's state flower, and its unusual botanical characteristics. The video uses historic photographs, reenactments, macro and time-lapse photography, and animation to create a rich portrait of this venerated plant. Slocomb introduces and expands on his award-winning video.

Enjoying the Old Montana Stories in New Ways

Jeffrey Smith, author and publisher, Missoula

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We have elevated many Montana stories to the status of myth—black hats vs. white hats, good vs. evil, reluctant heroes asserting themselves against all odds. These stereotypes may make good movies and comic books, but it's time to reexamine our stories of vigilantes and cavalymen, Copper Kings and

cowboys, buffalo exterminators old and new. Former historic preservation officer for Virginia City and former director of the Garnet Preservation Association, Smith draws stories from his book *The Montana Book of Days: The Short Course in Montana History* to focus on the unpredictable twists and turns of the old stories, and introduce stories of citizens we may have over-looked, stories outside the accepted Montana lexicon.

The Broadwater Hotel & Natatorium: One Man's Unfulfilled Dream

Patricia Spencer, independent scholar, Helena

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From its origins as a dusty mining camp, Helena quickly grew into a bustling cosmopolitan city. At the heart of the city's growth and development was the vision of Colonel Charles A. Broadwater. In 1888 he announced the construction of a grand resort in honor of Helena's prominence as the Queen City of the Rockies. The Broadwater Hotel and Natatorium were to serve as monuments to the class and elegance of Helena, and to the tourists who would make it a destination location. Who was Broadwater and what became of the grand resort? The story is inextricably linked to the story of Helena, from boomtown to the quiet city of today.

My Montana

Hal Stearns, historian, storyteller, guide, Helena

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A historian, storyteller, and traveler's view of Montana from border to border, this program focuses on the multi-faceted wonders of the Big Sky. Stearns, a Montana native, educator, and scholar, has traveled his beloved home state from Monida to Westby, Alzada to Yaak. Every county and hamlet has stories needing to be told. And many are not widely known.

A Soldier Humanist Look at the Lewis and Clark Expedition to the Northwest*

Hal Stearns, historian, storyteller, guide, Helena

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The Corps of Discovery was a military expedition made up of excellent leaders, tough sergeants, and a cadre of tough-minded men, who dealt with the unknown and potential danger throughout their two-and-a-half year journey. How did they make it? Army discipline, no doubt, was vital, but, Stearns argues, music, storytelling, and dance—the arts—were key to their success.

Montana's 'Copper Press'***

Dennis Swibold, professor of journalism, The University of Montana, Missoula

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To its critics it was the "Muzzled Press," the "Reptile Press" and the "ranked fraud that ever soiled white paper," yet for nearly seven decades a changing chorus of newspapers owned or otherwise controlled by the Anaconda Company wielded enormous influence over Montana's politics and journalism. The story of Anaconda journalism, from its birth in the scandalous clashes of copper kings to the pressures that finally brought about its demise, adds much to our understanding of the history of our state and the powers that tried to control it. Swibold will also highlight the efforts of Montana's independent journalists who battled the company press throughout its existence.

Liberty Can Wait: How Montanans Lost Their Free Speech Rights in World War I*

Clemens P. Work, Professor, School of Journalism, The University of Montana, Missoula

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Forty men—and one woman—were sent to Deer Lodge state prison between 1918 and 1921 merely for criticizing the US government or its participation in the war. Scores more were arrested on the same charge of sedition, during a hysterical climate of fear and oppression. With photographs and period documents, Clemens Work, author of *Darkest Before Dawn*, explores the lives of the ordinary people who ended up behind bars and the circumstances that led them there. A close look at a period within the memory of many of our grandparents gives us, in this wartime, some bracing insights into the value of free speech.

Nation and World

Bringing American History to Life: Educational Programs for Schools and Interested Organizations **Mark and Sharon Brown**, independent historical consultants, Whitehall 287-9233

cdvbrown@hotmail.com

History takes on a more interesting look when the Browns bring into the classroom a large array of uniforms, accoutrements, dresses, ball gowns and "hands-on" items from the Civil and Indian Wars period of American history. Living history presentations based on individuals' experiences during those wars dispel common myths and encourage further research. Social as well as political issues are discussed. Programs are tailored for elementary, secondary, and college level audiences as well as for general audiences.

Freedom of Speech and Communism: A Trip Through Belarus *

Victoria Christie, Professor/Chair, Communication Studies, Rocky Mountain College, Billings

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Formerly a part of the USSR, Belarus is one of the few remaining communist countries in the world. Christie's slide show and discussion describes not only what it is like to live in a communist country in which people do not enjoy freedom of speech, but also how Byelorussians perceive the West, and particularly the United States. The program will highlight how easily freedom of speech can be lost, and how totalitarian rule can be imposed when free speech is left undefended or unappreciated.

Southeast Asia

Rick and Susie Graetz, professor, authors, photographers and publishers, Big Sky/ Helena/Missoula

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Spectacular photography from all eleven nations of Southeast Asia, combined with a discussion of the physical and cultural geography helps audiences understand this intriguing part of the planet. The discussions and images cover everything from peaks with equatorial ice caps, to some of the world's most beautiful tropical islands, from the evolution of modern political entities like Indochina, to the almost astronomical economic growth of the region and its environmental degradation. Audiences gain a general understanding of a place that mixes a sleepy back-in-time existence with "modernization" of the highest degree.

The Himalayas, Karakorum, and Pamirs—Roof of the World

Rick and Susie Graetz, professor, authors, photographers and publishers, Big Sky/ Helena/Missoula

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The Great Himalayan Range has, since the days of the grand trade caravans, lured travelers to its exotic towns and villages, remote valleys and soaring peaks. Thousands of trails interconnect through this storied landscape. It is the roof of the Indian sub-continent, the crown of the planet, and the great range harbors all fourteen of the world's 8,000 meter peaks, including Chomolungma – Everest to the western world. Today many of us think of the higher parts of Asia, Afghanistan, Tajikistan, Pakistan, Nepal, Kashmir and Tibet, among the Himalayan, the Pamir and the Karakorum mountains, as reigns of terror or zones of fanaticism and conflict. The Graetzes, who have traveled and stayed among them tell a different story of the people and cultures of the mountains.

Islam & the West: The Historical Roots of Conflict

David D. Grimland, U.S. foreign service officer (retired), Columbus

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Holy war, suicide bombers, Shiites and Sunnis, al Qaeda, Hisbullah, Hamas... Since 9/11, Americans have been struggling to understand a new conflict which prior to 9/11 simply did not register on most Americans' radar. Dave Grimland, retired U.S. diplomat, spent most of his 28 years in the U.S. diplomatic service "telling America's story to the world" in countries with either Muslim majorities (Turkey, Bangladesh, Pakistan) or significant Muslim minorities (India, Cyprus, Greece), and in this informal presentation/discussion, examines the early and recent history of Islam and the West to better illustrate the historical causes and possible responses to this major concern of our time.

The Post-9/11 Western Cinema*

Walter C. Metz, Associate Professor and Interim Head of Media and Theatre Arts, Montana State University—Bozeman

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The events of September 11, 2001 changed many things. You may have expected to see them reflected in some modern movies, but what about in Westerns? This program engages a set of recent Hollywood films—*Open Range* (2003), *The Missing* (2003), and the recent *Star Wars* trilogy (1999-2005)—in order to trace the effect that America's response to the 9/11 tragedy had on the Western film genre. Metz's presentation will summarize major critical approaches to the West and the Western, and engage in detailed visual analysis of these films.

America in a Changing World

Ross Rodgers, former US diplomat, Bozeman

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In the midst of military actions in Afghanistan and Iraq, the United States faces enormous problems in the world: terrorist threats, the spread of nuclear weapons, a worsened opinion of the US around the globe, and disagreements over globalization and free trade. What are our options? Retired diplomat Ross Rodgers, who represented the US in Asia, Europe, and Latin America and was the Department of State's Deputy Director for International Criminal Justice, offers participants the chance to ask about the issues that concern them most and to exchange views with others. The program is well suited for schools, clubs, and community groups.

Who Shall Sing of the Valiant Woman? Strength and Heroism in Traditional Women's Songs

Sharon and Bill Rossiter, retired educators, Kalispell

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A rich vein of traditional songs and stories celebrates the "valiant woman." Songs tell of "The Bonny Lass of Anglesy," who defeated all the king's warriors in an athletic contest; of countless women on the frontier or ranch who endured harsh weather, poverty, and back-breaking work to establish homes; of Harriet Tubman who rescued others from the slavery she had escaped; of Molly Jackson and Woody Guthrie's "Union Maid," who braved the wrath of mine owners and their strikebreakers. This program celebrates these women, by telling their stories and singing their songs, accompanied by banjo, guitar and autoharp.

The Arab and Islamic World

Clay Scott, former foreign war correspondent, free-lance journalist, Helena

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clayws@earthlink.net

To most Americans, the Arab and Islamic world appears unstable, unpredictable, often hostile toward the United States, and certainly difficult to understand. This program provides an introduction to the peoples who make up the diverse societies of that world, touching on their histories, ethnicities, religions and traditions. Scott explores the phenomenon of "radical Islam," and the evolving - and uneasy - relationship between the Arab and Islamic world and the West.

A Plague On It! Past, Present and Future of Epidemics

Herbert Swick, M.D., Executive Director, Institute of Medicine and Humanities, Missoula

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From the Black Death of Europe in the 14th century to the rise of AIDS in the 20th century, and from the outbreaks of smallpox among Montana's Native Americans in the 19th century to the current march of West Nile Virus across the United States, epidemics have advanced our medical knowledge and transformed our literature, art, music and history. They have also challenged the way we—as humans—respond when confronted with a new and unknown danger. In this program, Herbert Swick uses intriguing stories from plagues ancient and modern to explore the impact of infectious diseases upon human history, culture and society.

Key Ingredients: America by Food

At Home on the Range: Food as Love in Literature of the Western Frontier

Sue Hart, professor of English, Montana State University-Billings

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With foodstuffs such a precious commodity on the frontier, a gift of food, a special meal, a homemade Christmas gingerbread man often symbolized the love of the cook for the recipient(s) of such gifts. Hear what A.B. Guthrie, Jr, Willa Cather, Dorothy M. Johnson, and a number of other authors have to say on the topic of "food as love."

CKraft in the Kitchen

Edrienne "Cindy" Kittredge, long-time museum director, current director Creative Arts Enterprise, Montana State University-Great Falls

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Using photographic images of finely crafted containers, tools, dishes, and linens Kittredge highlights the threads of craft which are woven into the culture of the kitchen. Melding ideas from history, art history, fine handcraft, education, literature, and anthropology, this presentation looks at the role that fine craft plays in American food traditions.

A Taste of Montana: A History of Cookbooks and Cooking in Montana

Molly Kruckenberg, Research Center Director, Montana Historical Society, Helena

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The history of food and cooking in Montana is as old and varied as the human occupation of the state, and cookbooks provide a window into this transient artform. Weaving together changes in food preparation and technology with the correlating changes in cookbooks, this program shows how cookbooks can be used to explore social and cultural changes in our history. Using illustrations from historic cookbooks, *A Taste of Montana* provides a delicious way to rediscover the past.

Fire Lookouts and Food

Libby Langston, author and journalist, Missoula

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Imagine the life of the lone person who works a fire lookout for a summer. Libby Langston will share stories and photographs from the past hundred years about lookout life in which a person takes care of needs such as cooking without the convenience of the corner grocery. Copies of some of the lookouts' creative recipes will be available and food samples from her book the *Lookout Cookbook* will be offered.

From the Land: Harvesting Food Plants on the Great Plains

Rosalyn LaPier, enrolled member of Blackfeet Nation, research fellow, Missoula

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Learn how tribes of the Great Plains harvested food plants as an integral part of their seasonal round. The gathering and processing of plants was generally the responsibility of women and girls. This slide presentation will discuss specific plants that were harvested, their nutritional value, their importance to a tribal society's survival and the important role of women in this tradition. Tribes not only followed the bison but also "followed" the berries and roots.

Montana's Emerging Food Shed

Ari LeVaux, food writer and columnist "Flash in the Pan," Missoula

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Montana's culture is rooted in eating from the land, with strong traditions of hunting, gathering, homesteading, and agriculture. With a bounty of wild and domesticated plants, animals, and fungi, we have all the ingredients for world-class food that could rival the storied cuisines of Europe or Asia. In recent years there has been a dramatic increase in the availability of Montana foods here at home, and more Montanans are discovering that the joys of eating locally include flavor, culture, high-nutrition, and a boon to local economies.

The Nature of Eating: Food, Cultures, and Landscape

Cindy Ott, history curator and affiliated assistant professor Museum of the Rockies/Montana State University-Bozeman

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Food is more than something we eat. By looking at food in its various guises – as crop, commodity, meal, and even holiday treat- this program will educate audience members about the cultural meanings of food, its connections to family and national traditions, and its impact on the world around them. Focusing particularly on the pumpkin, the program will use a rich array of historic and contemporary art and photographs, recipes and folklore to highlight the pivotal role of food in the creation of a sense of heritage and cultural identity.

Food, Culture, and Tradition: Global Cuisine, Its Experience and Influence upon American Society

Raymond E. Risho, independent scholar, master chef of international cuisine, retired restaurateur

"Perugia," Missoula

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Cuisine nudges our memories, stimulating us, arousing us with the essence of Old World hospitality and cooking filtered through the character of American regional cuisine. In this lecture Ray Risho describes how emigrating cultures, throwing off the garments of persecution, suffering or economic deprivation, adapted their traditional cuisine into the fabric of American society—the Old World connecting with the New. Emigrant societies offer us a glimpse of cultures which understand the value of hospitality, kinship, fellowship, honor and peacemaking, and which often revolve around the feasting table.

Songs for your Supper

William Rossiter, retired professor/chair of humanities, Flathead Valley Community College, Kalispell

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This program of songs (accompanied by guitar, banjo, autoharp) and stories shows how our food reflects who we are, who we were, where we come from. We sing of the food we love to eat, love to remember, and love to hate, the *real* food that sticks to your ribs and tastes like home. It's fall-back food when times are tough and go-to grub when we need to get back to basics: t-bones and spuds, grandma's soup, fried chicken, *lutefisk* (not for the sissy), garden tomatoes, grits, *lefse*, biscuits and gravy, watermelon. The songs recall a simpler time when the basic rule of nutrition was "fill 'er up."

Keeping It Local: Cultural and Agricultural Preservation and the Global Economy

Josh Slotnick, farm manager, adjunct professor of ecological agriculture and society, University of Montana-Missoula

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The globalization of our food system appears to be working well, the shelves on our grocery stores are well stocked. So why are individuals and organizations across the state working to localize our food system? Slotnick outlines the serious environmental and economic problems with our globalized food system, the links to the cultural changes in Montana towns and cities, and the benefits of localizing our food production, including guidelines on how to do it in one's own community.

Eating Our Words

Chrysti M. Smith, researcher and host of "Chrysti the Wordsmith" radio series, Belgrade

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How is someone "worth his salt?" Where's the ham in hamburger? How is "cheesecake" both a dessert and an image of a scantily clad woman? Why "couch potato?" If you think "easy as pie" is simple, have you ever tried to make one? "Eating Our Words" is a discussion on the many terms and expressions that make reference to food and eating. The program explores history and customs, with an eye on food preparation, food fads, and the ways in which food appears in our vocabulary.

Cookbook Culture: Food and Community in Eastern Montana

Randi Tanglen, MCH research fellow, Tucson AZ

(520) 444-0206 (Offered in summer only)

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This program will not only expose you to new and interesting recipes, but also to a new way of thinking about the lives and culture of eastern Montana women. With a tradition of maintaining community and ethnic traditions through food, many of these women have documented their recipes by passing them down to family members or by contributing to community cookbooks. Tanglen shares recipes and illustrations from community cookbooks that reveal how cookbooks have been a creative outlet for women as well as a way for them to form identities as community historians and leaders.

Literature

No Place is a Place without Poetry

Sandra Alcosser, Montana Poet Laureate, English professor at San Diego State University, Florence
273-0560

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"No place, not even a wild place," wrote Wallace Stegner, "is a place until it has had that human attention that at its highest reach we call poetry." Poetry expands the imagination of a community and suggests ways for society to become more humane. Montana's first poet laureate, Sandra Alcosser, will design and present an afternoon or evening of poetry—a reading, book discussion, or writing workshop—for your community.

The Ten Greatest Novels and How to Read Them

John Battaglia, former English teacher, Billings

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Are you looking for the necessary encouragement and advice that will make reading the world's finest novels an immensely rewarding experience? Beginning with a general discussion of the elements of the novel and the distinctions between merely good novels and the truly great ones, Battaglia offers several lists of great novels and will suggest the reading strategies necessary to enjoy and appreciate literature. If you love to read but have never explored the world's finest novels, this program is a great introduction.

Zen, Taoism, and American Nature Writing

John Battaglia, English teacher, independent scholar, Billings

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American nature writing not only celebrates the beauty of nature, but explores people's experiences in the natural world, which can lead to a better understanding of who we are and how we ought to live. This program will first explore attitudes towards nature that have shaped life in America and then turn to the Far Eastern philosophies of Zen Buddhism and Taoism to examine alternative perspectives. Battaglia will discuss the work of several American nature writers in connection with these two ancient philosophies and will present the audience with thought-provoking views that can have a profound effect on our relationship with nature and how we live our lives on a daily basis.

Montana's Historic Poets

Tami Haaland, poet, Assistant Professor of English at Montana State University-Billings

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The 1920s and 30s were particularly rich years for Montana poetry, but many of the poets from this period are forgotten or have become remote in our collective memory. Some, like J. V. Cunningham, who spent his formative years in the eastern part of the state, have never been recognized among Montana's poets. Discover and explore, with Haaland's guidance, the lives and writings of the more obscure poets who lived and wrote in Montana in the early twentieth century.

Montana Memoirs—Montana Memories

Sue Hart, Professor of English, Montana State University-Billings

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Montanans have always been good storytellers and appreciative listeners. Many of the state's best tales are preserved in the memoirs of adventurers such as Teddy Blue Abbott and James Willard Schultz,

early settlers like Mary Ronan and Nannie Alderson, members of homesteading families, including Chet Huntley and Dale Eunson. Audiences will be taken back to the days of Mountain Men and Indian Wars, to the early years of some prominent (and some not so well known) Montana communities. They will relive the homestead years, the boom and bust periods, and share some of their own Montana memories.

Fishing By the Book

Jon A. Jackson, writer, fisherman, Missoula
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There is more to fly-fishing than ... well, fishing. The literature of fishing is voluminous. Not many sports and pastimes have generated so much writing, from very early times – Izaak Walton – to just yesterday – Thomas McGuane. Quite a few of these writers were Montana anglers, themselves, like the venerated Norman Maclean. Want to wade through the stacks? Jon Jackson will guide you.

Losing Your Mind: How to Read Poems/How to Write Them

Lowell Jaeger, poet and Instructor in the Humanities, Flathead Valley Community College, Bigfork
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"Now the eyes of my eyes are opened and the ears of my ears can hear," wrote poet e.e. cummings, reminding us that poetry is first and foremost a sensual experience. In this program, you will be asked to "lose your mind," a playful way of saying that, to appreciate poetry or to write it, we must reign in our intellects long enough to favor our senses, our hearts, and the wisdom of our collective unconscious as alternative means of perceiving and decoding the world within and around us. Result: through language we learn that each one's life is as distinct as his or her thumbprint, and—paradoxically—each life is a tale told countless times before.

Cinderella in Syria -Folklore from Around the World

Clay Scott, former foreign war correspondent, free-lance journalist, Helena
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Take a fresh look at tales, legends, epics and other forms of folklore from around the world with a life-long collector of folklore. Explore how folklore migrates; how it is, for example, that versions of "Cinderella" are told in places as diverse as Iceland and Syria (not to mention Montana). What has been the impact of technology on folklore? Can television and the internet (or even literacy) coexist with traditional story telling? Those who attend this presentation will come away not only with a broader knowledge of the folklore that is an organic part of all lives, but a deeper understanding of the cultural continuum between "our" world, and other places and peoples.

America's Nature Writers*

John Snider, Professor of English Montana State University-Northern, Havre
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The great natural abundance and beauty of the vast American landscape has inspired America's nature writers including Ralph Waldo Emerson, Henry David Thoreau, John Muir, Aldo Leopold, Sigurd Olson, Annie Dillard, Wendell Berry, Gary Snyder, and others. As global warming, overpopulation, habitat destruction, and urbanization all threaten the natural wonders of our planet, we are now more than ever in need of the wisdom of our great nature writers. This discussion will highlight America's nature writers and ask the audience to share their perceptions of the natural beauty of the West.

Environment

Troubled Newsrooms and Community Ignorance: Journalism's Duty to the American West*

Frank Edward Allen, president and executive director, Institutes for Journalism & Natural Resources, Lolo
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Most Montanans care deeply about the natural beauty and natural resources of the region they call home. Yet many citizens are dissatisfied with how the West's newsrooms cover the rapid and, at times, unwanted changes that have become pervasive. Although the West's natural resources—from rivers, aquifers, and forests to mountains, rangelands, and wildlife—are fundamental to the region's character, news coverage of such vital topics is often shallow and polarizing. Allen asks, how have attitudes and

practices inside so many Western newsrooms become obstacles to better coverage and deeper public understanding?

St. Francis in the 21st Century: Creation, Compassion and Community

John Hart, Professor of Christian Ethics, Boston Univ., Professor of Theology, Carroll College, Helena
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Montanans today are concerned about the effects of environmental degradation on their health and the effects of environmental regulations on their livelihood. Many seek insights on living responsibly in a community. Hart recounts the life of Francis of Assisi, his love for all creation, his compassion for outcasts, and his efforts to promote a sense of community in a discordant era and then relates this story to Native American spiritual teachings about the sacredness of Mother Earth. This program encourages interactive discussion to explore the relationship of religious beliefs, community dynamics, compassion for the poor, and environmental concerns for 21st century Montana.

Bridging the Environment-Economy Divide

Brian Kahn, host of "Home Ground Radio," former Director of the Montana Nature Conservancy, Helena.
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Brian Kahn explores the historic tension between resource-based economic development and environmental conservation in the American West, and describes the evolving reality of collaborative conservation. Examine grazing, mining, and timber production in light of the changing western economy, and cultural perceptions and expectations about our use of nature. Finally join in an assessment of the synergy between emerging rural and urban needs and perspectives, and the potential for a new American social compact based on economic-environmental "common ground".

Killing the Last Wolf: Wolf Stories from Early Montana

Tim Lehman, Professor of History, Rocky Mountain College, Billings
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Although Montanans' views of wolves today tend to be polarized, our history shows that we have had a long and varied response to these animals. In the past, when wolf killing was widespread, a few remaining animals attained "outlaw" status—famous for their size, tenacity, and intelligence. These celebrity wolves served as a measure of the toughness of the humans who hunted them as well as a symbol of the freedom of a bygone era. Returning to these wolf stories from our past helps us to appreciate our own values and to understand better our own, often complex, relationship with nature.

Understanding Wildlife Cinema

Walter C. Metz, Associate Professor and Interim Head of Media and Theatre Arts, Montana State University—Bozeman
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Wildlife programs are ubiquitous on television and are generally viewed as ideologically safe, especially for children. In fact, their representations are distinctly tied to dominant culture's ideas about topics such as race, class, and gender. Some wildlife films depict a particular relationship between animals and humans that is distinctly at odds with the lived experience of many who live in Montana. Using media studies analysis he developed, Metz will lead the audience in a discussion of how and why humanists talk about the meaning-laden nature of wildlife cinema and how the films can teach us as much about human culture as they do about the science of animals.

Community and Morality: A Brief Look at Wendell Berry's Agrarian Ethics*

Dane Scott, Director of the Center for Ethics and Associate Professor of Environmental Studies,
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Thomas Jefferson began a long tradition in American thought which argues that agrarian communities are highly important to our democracy. With the disappearance of small farm life in America, is the Jeffersonian tradition becoming obsolete? The poet, essayist, farmer and philosopher Wendell Berry defends the Jeffersonian tradition. Berry warns that with the loss of agrarian communities we are losing the moral economy that helps to create virtuous citizens. Is Berry a serious social critic or merely

nostalgic for a lost world? Dane Scott will discuss Berry's ideas on community, the moral economy, and virtuous citizenship in an effort to find some positive suggestions for our future.

Media and The Arts

Movie Stars & Rattlesnakes: The Heyday of Montana Live Television

Norma Beatty Ashby, television broadcaster, author, Great Falls

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Montana broadcast pioneer Norma Beatty Ashby describes her twenty-four years before the camera on her daily "Today in Montana" show with anecdotes about the famous and infamous guests she interviewed from Bob Hope and Clint Eastwood to rattlesnake handler Cyril Colarchek and a prisoner in the hole at the old Montana State Prison. Accompanied by video clips and images, she shares the challenges and joys of producing 7,000 shows over nearly three decades when morning live television was an important part of Montanans' daily lives.

Handkerchiefs: The Artful Little Squares of History

Terese Blanding, textile historian, Fairfield

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Handkerchiefs, though small, are textiles rich, not only in needlework and graphic design, but as symbols in literature as well. This program explores the adventures and history of these versatile artifacts in works by Shakespeare, Samuel Pepys, Walt Whitman, Louisa May Alcott, Mark Twain, Helen Hung Jackson, Willa Cather, D.H. Lawrence, Truman Capote, Ivan Doig, Barbara Kingsolver, Judy Blunt, Debra Magpie Earling and many more. The lecture is accompanied by 500 vintage "little squares"—among them, examples of betrothal, bridal, mourning, children's, dance, sport, souvenir and work handkerchiefs.

Montana Historic Highway Brideges: Fieldnotes from the Photographer

Kristi Hager, preservation photographer and artist, Missoula

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Through photos and notes, Kristi Hager shares the peculiarities of photographing historic bridges over Montana's rivers including the Milk, Missouri, Dearborn, Clark Fork, Yellowstone and Tongue Rivers. A bridge is often a beloved local landmark, a thing of beauty, source of pride, and a fishing access. Some of these bridges are already gone. See their photographs and learn how to identify and preserve the historic bridges that remain.

Broccoli, Brains, and Butterflies: Connecting Chaos and Creativity

Vranna Sue Hinck, independent scholar, Bozeman

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What do broccoli, brains, and butterflies share besides alliteration? Hinck uses chaos theory as a metaphor or lens through which one can explore the language and culture of science and art, and proposes that, while we live in an increasingly complicated world, we might do well to explore the nature of complexity itself, rather than desperately seek simplicity. Hinck uses slides and props to open our vision, and to awaken our capacities for creativity in our real and daily lives.

Ghost Signs: A Sign of the Times

Kevin Kooistra-Manning, community historian, Western Heritage Center, Billings

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Ghost signs, the hand-rendered painted advertisements on the sides of historic buildings and rock faces reveal past periods of occupancy and use and give continuity to public spaces, becoming part of the community memory. What dictated the location of this advertising and how were the signs adhered to buildings? Using a power point slide show, Kooistra-Manning addresses these questions and presents images of some of the most impressive ghost signs in the Billings and the Yellowstone River Valley using both historic photographs from the Western Heritage Center archives and contemporary images of historic advertisements.

Montanarama: Science Woman Analyzes the State! of Montana

Leslie Van Stavern Millar, visual and performance artist, Missoula
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What makes Montana unique? "Montanarama" provides a humorous and thought-provoking analysis of the diverse elements contributing to Montana's identity as a western state in the 21st century. Join "Science Woman," clad in her trademark lab coat, as she examines interesting factual material—Montana history, regional oddities, new demographic studies and popular culture—enhanced by visually inventive slides.

Lewis and Clark on the World Wide Web: The Expedition as Hyperhistory

Joseph Mussulman, retired Professor of Music, The University of Montana, Missoula

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In a personalized tour of highlights from his encyclopedic Web site, *Discovering Lewis & Clark* (www.lewis-clark.org), Dr. Mussulman illustrates the potential of the World Wide Web as a unique and powerful, inter-generational medium for information and education. Leaving behind the garish hype of most commercial sites, he de-mystifies the basic vocabulary, such as "hypertext" and "hypergraphic," and illustrates the appeal of interactivity in a fresh approach to the humanities that has come to be called "hyperhistory."

A Journalist's Perspective on Wars and Reporting Them*

Clay Scott, former war correspondent, free-lance journalist, Helena

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This program by a veteran foreign news correspondent will look at the work of journalists covering wars and conflicts, exploring broad questions about foreign news coverage, as well as issues specific to war reporting. Examine with Scott why some events are "news" while others are ignored, whether it is possible to cover a conflict without taking sides, what motivates journalists to cover wars, and some of the ethical dilemmas journalists face.

Pioneer Musicology of Montana: The Lewis and Clark Expedition Through the Montana Gold Rush Era*

Rick Strohmeyer, old-time musician, Miles City

234-0118 home 853-1487 cell

rstrohmeyer@state.mt.us

Strohmeyer presents and discusses the traditional musical styles and techniques of the West, and explores the relationship of Native American and Celtic European musical traditions. Through authentic musical performances by this musicologist of the 1700s-1800s period of North American settlement, the music of this era comes alive.

Communication, Culture, and Public Policy

The Making of a Good Woman: Montana and the National Florence Crittenton Mission

Ellen Baumler, author and interpretive historian, Montana Historical Society, Helena

444-1687 office 449-3062 home

mbaumler@aol.com

The Florence Crittenton Mission, founded in 1883 to offer sanctuary to "fallen women and wayward girls," came to Montana in the late 1890s as Crittenton Home Circles formed across the state to refer girls to the home in Helena. The matron's daybook from 1900 to 1915 and photographs of some of the anonymous women and girls who passed through the home, their backs to the camera, provide a backdrop for this unusual program. Dr. Baumler explores uncharted territory in women's history in Montana, tracing the national and local evolution of an organization that is as vital today as it was a century ago.

Civis Romanus Sum

Bonnie Bowler, retired Latin teacher, Helena

444-1759 (a.m.) office 444-0470 home

bowler@imine.net

CIVIS ROMANUS SUM (I am a Roman citizen) was once the password into "civil society" in ancient Rome. How has that "civil society" and its vocabulary evolved? What ancient words still lace through and

define our political/civil dialogues today? Bowler will engage the audience in a discussion to explore and unravel the true meaning and evolution of the words we use most often in today's political and community conversations.

Popular Courtship & Wedding Customs in America: A Look at Their History

Mark and Sharon Brown, independent historical consultants, Whitehall

287-9233

cdvbrown@hotmail.com

Have you ever wondered where the traditions of American weddings originated? With an extensive collection of original garments, valentines and accessories, the Browns discuss early courtship rituals and proper etiquette, from colonial times to the present. This informal program takes a light-hearted look at the coupling process from "wooing" to "wedlock."

The Writing and Promises of the Montana Constitution

Bob Campbell, attorney, Delegate to Montana Constitutional Convention, Helena

443-5276

bobcampmt@aol.com

In 1972 the people of Montana participated in the unique experience of rewriting the outdated 1889 Constitution that had restricted efficient state government from the day it became effective. Bob Campbell, who was elected as a Delegate from Missoula County, served on the Bill of Rights Committee, and contributed the Preamble, the Right to a Clean and Healthy Environment, and the Right of Privacy sections, along with other proposals adopted in the final document, explores this singular chapter in Montana history.

Montana in the 21st Century*

Harry Fritz, Professor/Chair of History Department, University of Montana, Missoula

243-2993 office 549-6712 home

harry.fritz@umontana.edu

Montanans know where they have come from; but do they know where they are going? Economically, demographically, politically, the state is shifting, and these trends are transforming the culture of Montana. With a perspective from the past, this view of the future combines a mixture of analysis, speculation, and imagination.

Cool Water Hula and The Bigger Picture*

Kristi Hager, historic preservation photographer and artist, Missoula

327-6681

lightroom@montana.com

How does doing a hula on the rim of the Berkeley Pit fit in with the science, money, and litigation needed for a monumental clean up? One hundred and fifty people did the *Cool Water Hula* and took a chance that humor and beauty could relieve years of anger, helplessness, and polarization. Explore the risks and rewards of putting your imagination out there publicly in order to get in touch with and create a bigger picture.

American Values for Our Time

Brian Kahn, host of "Home Ground Radio," Helena

406-444-8744

brian@ArtemisGroup.org

Over the last fifty years, our nation has undergone tremendous changes, and it is hard to get our moral bearings. But given the stark national and global challenges we face, it is vital that we do so. Founding values underpinning and enshrined in the Declaration of Independence and Bill of Rights can provide us with the moral compass we need in today's world. This talk explores Citizenship, Community, Checks and Balances, Conservation, Conscience and Common Ground, discussing the evolution of each in America and their direct relevance at this critical time.

Something Old, Something New: Weddings in Montana

Martha Kohl, historical specialist, Montana Historical Society, Helena

449-2504

mskohl@bresnan.net

On the one hand, almost nothing is more personal than getting married. On the other hand, few rituals are more thoroughly influenced by larger cultural forces than weddings. How have weddings changed over the years? From outlaw-sheriff Henry Plummer's wedding in the 1860s to stories of

weddings today, this presentation asks what weddings can tell us about Montana history and what Montana history can tell us about the ways people chose to wed.

Social Class in Montana: The Effects of Inequality on Montanan Children, and Workers, and their Health

Sergio Romero, assistant professor of sociology, The University of Montana, Missoula
243-2852 office 683-9462 home
sergio.romero@umontana.edu

Does social class exist in Montana? The gap between the nation's rich and poor is greater today than it was before 1929, and Montana is feeling its effects. More and more Montanans are struggling just to get by, affecting children and workers in many ways. Professor Romero will explore the social aspects of economic inequality, its effects on Montanan's health, how Montana compares with other states in the region, and what measures are being taken by Montanans to ameliorate poverty in our state. Conventional ideas on poverty and alternative perspectives are presented.

Let Us Reason Together: A Primer on Civic Discourse

Mark Sherouse, Executive Director, Montana Committee for the Humanities, Missoula
243-6022 office
mark.sherouse@umontana.edu

Democracy is far more than a merely procedural matter, electing representatives, legislating and executing policy: its vitality and responsiveness require a vigorous *civil society* as well. But civil society requires a *civic discourse* that is deliberative, inclusive, empowering, imaginative, provisional, attentive and respectful. This presentation explores the relations among the ideas of democracy, civil society, and civic discourse, identifying the attributes of civic discourse as well as obstacles to it.

"Happy as a Clam," A Study of Clichés

Chrysti M. Smith, researcher and host of "Chrysti the Wordsmith" radio series, Belgrade
388-7480
ctwordsmith@yahoo.com

Smith leads a discussion about the pros and cons of clichés, the sources of these expressions, and why they endure within the English language. "Happy as a Clam" addresses the story behind the legendary joyous bivalve – the complete phrase is *happy as a clam at high tide*, (when clamdiggers cease searching). It looks at sheets in the cliché *three sheets to the wind*; why we dress up when *putting on the dog*, and what exactly are the *cockles of one's heart*.

Of Mice and Bunnies: Walt Disney, Hugh Hefner, and the Age of Consensus

Patricia Spencer, independent scholar, Helena
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pspencer@mtlib.org

Post World War II victory culture and its fallout– the consensus ideology–led to the creation of a middle class willing to conform to a prescribed set of ideals, safely removed from all danger, and enjoying the material benefits of a growing middle-income class bracket. Walt Disney and Hugh Hefner, two seemingly ideologically opposed businessmen, recognized this economic, political, and cultural shift as a market and sought to capitalize on the movement both financially and psychologically. In the end, both created entertainment empires that not only embraced the tenets of consensus ideology but altered the American cultural landscape.

Human Rights of International Adoption—Saving Young Lives or 'Trafficking' in Children?

Betty Stroock, researcher, international adoption consultant, Bozeman
585-2806
bnots@earthlink.net

On a per capita basis, more children are adopted from Guatemala than any other nation; and as the popularity of Guatemalan adoptions continues to grow, a human rights controversy has torn through this impoverished nation. Advocates hail adoption as an act of humanity that literally saves lives; critics denounce the practice as little more than a commodities trade, a lucrative export industry whose operatives "traffic" in human souls. This talk, with slides, explores the many moral, ethical and legal ambiguities of international adoption through interactive, thought-provoking discussion.

Miscommunication Along the Lewis and Clark Trail

Sally Thompson, anthropologist, Director, Lifelong Learning Project, The University of Montana, Missoula

243-5889 office **542-8795** home

sally1thompson@umontana.edu

The Lewis and Clark story is replete with examples of non-verbal communication in the form of sign language and maps. Later travelers in the region used these forms of communication and added their observations of iconographic communication to the history. Thompson invites the audience to consider the challenge to understand a situation two centuries old involving inter-cultural communication in which most parties had no experience with the culture, or, often, the language, of the other. What might we find if we try to read between the lines?

World Population and National Security

Chuck Tooley, businessman, political leader, and board member of The Population Institute in Washington, D.C., Billings

248-4404 office **651-0273** home

cft@chucktooley.com

Whether the concern is hunger, disease, war, immigration, land use, resource depletion, or international security, world population growth has an increasing effect on how we live our lives. Because of the ease of travel throughout the world, new political-religious realities, and the deterioration of traditional familial cultures, our national security will continue to be affected in a variety of ways. Chuck Tooley will discuss these realities and envisage some options for the future.

Museum Resources and Historic Preservation

Conveniences Sorely Needed: Montana's Historic Highway Bridges

Jon Axline, historian, Montana Dept. of Transportation, Helena

444-6258 office **442-3959** home

jaxline@mt.gov

Historic bridges are an important part of Montana's landscape providing a connection between the state's past and present. They are good examples of the science of practical bridge engineering, reflect the optimism that many had in the future of their communities and state, and silently represent the development of Montana from territorial days to the Interstate Era. Jon Axline's presentation weaves together via narrative and illustrations, the science of old bridges, the people who built them, and the stories they tell us.

Why are you Taking These Pictures? Official and Personal Answers from an Historic Preservation Photographer

Kristi Hager, preservation photographer and artist, Missoula

327-6681

lightroom@montana.com

Inspired by Evelyn Cameron, who photographed a vanishing Montana a century ago, Kristi Hager shares her photographs of historic ranches, power plants, bridges, drive-ins, and schoolhouses. She explains the Federal mandate and her personal reasons for doing work that ends up quietly filed away in state and national archives. As she curses the wind, slips in gumbo, and clambers over fences with 30 pounds of camera, she thinks of Cameron and stops whining.

Preventive Conservation for Small Museums

Teresa Knutson, textile conservator and principal, Rocky Mountain Textile Conservation, Kalispell
756-1388

rmtcons@yahoo.com

The goal of museums and historical societies is to preserve the artifacts within their collections as part of the heritage of the community. Unfortunately many small organizations lack both staff and funding to fulfill this goal. This day-long workshop will provide information on preventive conservation to small museums, addressing such topics as monitoring environmental conditions, care and handling of museum artifacts, storage methods, assessment of artifacts, and conservation and disaster plans for museums. Knutson will structure the workshop according to the needs of the museum or historical society (determined by a questionnaire completed prior to the workshop) and will tailor her consultation to their collections of textiles and historic costumes.

Preservation and Community "Sense of Place"

Allan J. Mathews, historian, writer, preservation consultant, Missoula
531-6572 office 728-2351 home
missoulahistoric@aol.com

As box stores and strip malls descend upon the West, often draining the life from urban centers, cities and towns look for ways to avoid numbing sameness, and somehow retain or restore their architectural and natural identities. Allan James Mathews, "Preservationist of the Decade" in Missoula County and member of the Montana Preservation Alliance's Community Preservation Team, presents a multi-media look at how towns change for the better and worse and describes the tools and strategies available to preserve and promote a "sense of place." Original music, historic photos, and examples of preservation projects all come together to provide an inspiring and entertaining program.

It's All About Artifacts

Janet Sperry, retired registrar, Montana Historical Society, Helena
443-2749
jsperry@mt.net

The job of a museum is to preserve objects *forever*. We need to learn as much as we can about the proper way to manage museum collections. This hands-on learning workshop will target an area of collections management determined by the requesting museum. Museum records management is the creation of permanent records generated and kept by the museum: accession/deaccession records, loan forms, collection inventories, typed catalogue cards or sheets, handwritten catalogue worksheets, conditions reports, location records, name/place association records, and insurance forms. This program is useful to all community members involved with their museum.

Living History Programs in Your Museum

Dan Thyer, living history coordinator, Montana Heritage Commission, Virginia City
843-5247
dthyer@mt.gov

Living History enables history museums, historical societies, and other educational organizations to truly engage the public with history. This is accomplished using historic objects and environs and appropriate recreations to tell the stories of the people who used those objects. Dan Thyer, Living History Coordinator for the Montana Heritage Commission's "Step into Montana's Past" Nevada City Museum Living History Program presents information on how to design, tailor, and implement, living history programs in your museum setting.

Chautauqua

The Belle of Amherst: Black Cake and Poetry

Allyson Adams, playwright, teacher, and actress, Virginia City
843-5258
adamsallyson@hotmail.com www.allysonadams.com

This program is an adaptation of William Luce's one woman play "The Belle of Amherst." Listen to Emily Dickinson tell the story of her life, her loves, and most of all, her poetry. She will bare her soul and enchant you with her candor (but not before giving you her famous holiday recipe for Black Cake!). Bring your heart and best ear to meet one of America's most beloved poets of all time!

Jeannette Rankin, Peace is a Woman's Job

Allyson Adams, playwright, teacher, and actress, Virginia City
843-5258
adamsallyson@hotmail.com www.allysonadams.com

Meet Jeannette Rankin, the first woman elected to the United States Congress. As a legislator and peace activist, she voted against U.S. entry into WWI and WWII, adopted Gandhi's philosophy of nonviolence, and protested the Vietnam War. In light of the recent overwhelming passage of the USA/Patriot Act, Allyson Adams leads the audience through the life of this remarkable woman and the difficult choices she had to make.

Yellowstone Kelly

Mark L. Brown, independent scholar, Whitehall
287-9233
cdvbrown@hotmail.com

Luther S Kelly, born in New York in 1849, served in the Civil War and then went west where he hunted and trapped along the Yellowstone River, learning the language of the Sioux. This colorful

Montana frontiersman was well educated, quiet, and a skilled rifleman. As an expert guide, his knowledge of the area and the native peoples was invaluable to the U.S. military. He served under General Nelson A. Miles in campaigns against the Indians, led two expeditions to Alaska, fought in the Philippines, and was eventually named agent of the San Carlos Reservation. Upon his death in 1928, his wish to be buried atop a mountain overlooking the Yellowstone River in Billings was carried out.

The Banning of Huckleberry Finn

Michael Delaney, independent scholar on Twain, Missoula
542-3921

Since its publication in 1885 *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* has been almost constantly banned somewhere in the country for one reason or another. Currently, the most popular objection to the book is that it is perceived as racist. In a presentation particularly appropriate for the high school or college campus, Delaney addresses this issue, then opens the program to what has consistently been lively and productive discussion.

Mark Twain in Montana

Michael Delaney, independent scholar on Twain, Missoula
542-3921

In the early 1860s, en route from St. Joseph, Missouri to Carson City, Nevada, Mark Twain met and had breakfast with the notorious Virginia City desperado Bad Jack Slade. Fortunately, Slade was sober at the time, and Twain survived the interview. Some three decades later on the third leg of his worldwide lecture tour, Twain stopped and lectured in five Montana cities. Delaney presents a most amusing view of these historical events from Mark Twain's unique perspective.

Mark Twain Portrayal

Michael T. Delaney, independent scholar on Twain, Missoula
542-3821

In Mark Twain's day, the public lecture was a most popular form of entertainment, and Twain was arguably the most popular practitioner of the art. In this thought-provoking and entertaining Chautauqua, Michael Delaney presents Mark Twain as Twain presented himself on tour. Delaney, who served two years as the village Mark Twain in the Hannibal, Missouri Historical District, offers a variety of programs and topics to suit any occasion, and includes a segment in which he addresses questions from the audience.

Koo-Koo-Sint (Star Watcher) - David Thompson: Searching Sources to the Sea

Ritchie Doyle, writer, actor, historical interpretive specialist, Lolo
273-2279

ritchie@bigsky.net

Perhaps the greatest land explorer of all time, geographer and surveyor David Thompson's achievements throughout the Inland Northwest (1807-1812) are unequaled. Traveling by foot, boat, horseback or dogsled, Thompson completed the first scientific survey of the entire Columbia River—a vast area of 1.9 million square miles. Using Thompson's own words (and maps), Doyle's Chautauqua presentation brings to life this compassionate, confident and determined character whose legacy today resonates through the Columbia Basin.

A Visit with TR

Arch Ellwein, independent scholar and actor, Sidney
(800) 482-5109
arch@midrivers.com

During the 100th anniversary of Roosevelt's administration (1901-1909) meet the vibrant 26th President of the United States. Even Roosevelt's critics admired the man who took on the corporate trusts, charged up San Juan Hill, defied the Party "bosses," built the Panama Canal, defined conservation and won a Nobel Peace Prize. Hear his views on conservation, agriculture, and democracy, all shaped by his Western experience. Portrayed by Arch Ellwein, President Roosevelt talks of his experiences in Montana as a rancher and sportsman. Following his "press conference," the actor/historian will come out of character for further discussion.

Steamboating on the Missouri with Captain Marsh

Arch Ellwein, independent scholar and actor, Sidney
(800) 482-5109

arch@midrivers.com

A colorful chapter of Montana History is revisited in this first-person portrayal of Steamboat Captain Grant Marsh by actor/historian Arch Ellwein. Marsh was the king of the upper Missouri steam boaters, never losing a vessel in scores of excursions to the head of navigation, Fort Benton. He captained an exploration up the Yellowstone to within 60 miles of Yellowstone National Park, and, from the battle of the Little Big Horn, he brought the news and transported the wounded to Bismarck, North Dakota in record time. Ellwein presents a 35-40 minute presentation in character, followed by questions and discussion.

Abraham Lincoln Chautauqua

Harry Fritz, Professor/Chair of History Department, University of Montana, Missoula

243-2993 office 549- 6712 home

harry.fritz@umontana.edu

The official Abraham Lincoln birthday bicentennial (1809-2009) has already begun. The 16th president welcomes the opportunity to talk about his career, and about the awesome responsibilities of guiding the United States to victory in a long and bloody Civil War. (Available only in February.)

37 Days of Peril: Truman Everts' Journey Across the Yellowstone Wilderness

Greg Gordon, university instructor and writer, Gardiner

788-7749 office 848-9982 home

fightingbull63@yahoo.com

A series of tragedies unfolded in the American frontier wilderness in 1870, when Truman Everts became separated from the Washburn-Langford Expedition in the dense forest on the south shore of Yellowstone Lake. Thirty-seven days later two frontiersmen found him crawling through the snow near the northern boundary of what would become Yellowstone National Park. This chatauqua presentation tells Everts' story with members of the audience serving in the roles of various expedition members.

Tea With Dolley Madison

Cheryl Hesel, Director of Rosebud County Library, Forsyth

346-7561 office 356-4372 home

rclib@rangeweb.net

From pre-Revolutionary days as a girl growing up in the Society of Friends (Quaker) tradition until 1829, when she was in her 60s and her husband was nearing death, Dolley Madison sparkled with humor, gifted observation, and genuine love of life. Through this living history program Cheryl Hesel acquaints us with Montpelier, Madison's life, and the personalities and importance of many leading figures in early America, as well as the political disputes and currents which affected them.

In addition to the performance, Cheryl is offering to meet with classes of students during the school day to give them a lesson in Madison's historic era and to acquaint them with the process of historic biographical research and creation of a "living history" presentation.

An Unfinished Life: The Last Day in the Life of Meriwether Lewis

David Jolles, performing artist, Missoula

549-3656 office 728-3344

jolles@bigsky.net

The death of Meriwether Lewis in the fall of 1809 is surrounded by controversy that continues to this day. Hear the famous explorer tell *his* story of what really happened that fateful night in the woods of Tennessee. Participate in furthering the debate (murder vs. suicide) over his demise and learn of the complex and intriguing series of events leading up to his death, as a vehicle for a larger and more thorough investigation of the national political climate of the early 19th century. This "back-to-the-future" technique also affords Lewis the opportunity to comment on the ensuing two centuries since he died.

Workers of the World Who Came to Butte

Thomas G. Satterly, storyteller and department manager, Environmental Sciences Department, University of Montana-Western, Dillon.

683-7869 office 683-4081 home

t_satterly@umwestern.edu

Shift change in Butte was a shuffling rumble of thousands of men from Wales, Finland, Austria, Ireland, Croatia, Italy, China, Syria, Cornwall, every state in the US, and just about everywhere else. Butte was always open: Italian supper clubs in Meaderville, boarding houses in Finntown, the Columbia

gardens, streetcars, the joints uptown, and everybody's kitchens. Tom Satterly, descendant of early Butte families, will take the audience to ethnic Butte in the "Roaring 20s" and "Dirty 30s" through this in-costume Chautauqua performance.

Harry Alonzo Longabaugh, the Sundance Kid in Montana*

Dan Thyer, living history coordinator, Montana Heritage Commission, Virginia City

843-5247

dthyer@mt.gov

Dan Thyer, Living History Coordinator for the Montana Heritage Commission portrays one of the most famous and colorful outlaws in the history of the American West. The Sundance Kid was a member of the Hole in the Wall gang later known by the Pinkerton Detective agency as the Wild Bunch. The Kid worked as a cowboy and outlaw in Wyoming and Montana. Dan uses 1st person and 3rd person to present educational information about the Malta-Wagner, Montana robberies of the Great Northern Railroad, in 1892, and 1901.

Sponsor Requirements

A minimum **\$50 cash co-payment per program** is required from the sponsoring organization.

A check for \$50 per application should be **sent at the time of the application**. If MCH declines to fund an application, the \$50 will be returned.

Upon written request, appropriate waivers will be made for small or disadvantaged organizations.

As an **alternative or in addition to the co-payment**, organizations may provide speaker's lodging and/or meal(s). Such arrangements **must** be made with the speaker in accordance with her/his preferences, and noted on the application. All cash contributed, as well as the value of meals and/or lodging, count as part of the sponsor's total match to the grant.

All travel involving a **round trip of more than 800 miles** must include **multiple programs** in the same community or in other communities along the route. MCH staff can help suggest sponsors.

MCH pays *honoraria* and travel, meals, and lodging expenses directly to the speakers in the *Speakers Bureau*. As you know, in addition to co-payment, your sponsorship demands a real investment of volunteer time and often cash for the remainder of costs involved in promotion, telephoning, travel, hospitality, supplies, space, and rentals required for the program. When you attach a monetary value to your volunteer service and keep track of cash expenses and donated printing and publicity on behalf of your program, you will discover that your expenditures often exceed MCH's grant.

Estimating and documenting such information is your single most important obligation to MCH. On the application, you must complete a cost-sharing statement. This demonstrates to our principal sources of funds, the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Montana Cultural Trust, that our sponsors share the cost of public humanities programs in Montana, a requirement for their funding.

First, list the amount of your co-payment check made out to Montana Committee for the

Humanities. Enter this figure on *Line a.* of the "cost share" section of your application.

Second, if your organization will provide meals and/or lodging for speaker, enter dollar value on *Line b.* You must confer on this with the speaker.

Next, estimate the total number of hours that you and other volunteers will spend in planning, promoting, presenting/attending, evaluating and reporting on the program. Experience shows that organizations typically devote about ten or more hours to these tasks. Multiply your estimated number of hours by the worth of your time: for example, your actual hourly pay per hour (divide annual salaries by 2,080 hours), or what you might charge as a consultant performing these tasks. NEH accepts hourly estimates as high as \$50.00 per hour. Enter this amount on *Line c.*

Next, estimate actual out-of-pocket expenses. Has a program planning committee traveled to a single location to meet? Will you need to rent a projector? What will refreshments cost your organization? Calculate any round-trip mileage at \$.445 per mile, add to the total of all other cash expenses, and enter this figure on *Line d.* of your application.

Finally, there are costs that do not require cash but nonetheless possess calculable value. An example is the room in which your project takes place. Chances are you have obtained the meeting place free of charge. You should inquire what its cost would be or estimate it based on the local market. Similarly, you should estimate the value of donated refreshments, air time on the radio, for publicity, loaned slide projector, *etc.*, on *Line e.* of your application.

Add Lines a. through e. Your total on *Line f.* must equal at least \$400—the average amount it costs MCH to pay an *honorarium* and expenses for a speaker to participate in your program. When your program is completed you will be required to complete a financial report, in which you will document (with statements and receipts) the volunteer time, out-of-pocket expenses, and other estimated costs of your program.



Montana Committee for the Humanities

MCH is an independent non-profit (501(c)(3)) organization, governed by a board of nineteen Montana citizens, four of whom are appointed by the Governor.

Gar Amundson Glendive
Rafael Chacon Missoula
Brian Cockhill Helena
Ellen Crain* Butte *Vice Chair*
Geoffrey Gamble Bozeman
James Heckel Great Falls
Joan Hoff Big Sky
Charlene Loge Dillon
Michael Murphy Missoula *Chair*
Susan Near Helena
Kathleen Ralph Columbus
James Shanley* Poplar
Carol Smith Hamilton
Karen Stevenson Miles City
Ruth Towe* Billings
Bruce Whittenberg* Billings
Bonnie Williamson Havre
William Yellowtail Bozeman

**Governor's Appointees*

Mark Sherouse
Executive Director

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For 35 years,
one organization has
brought Montanans
together, to explore
their cultures and
heritage, to
illuminate the issues
before them, and to
encourage
meaningful civic
discourse...

